

Ravenna City Council Streets & Sidewalks Committee Meeting Minutes June 13, 2022

The public meeting was held in person in City Council Chambers.

Council present: Council President Andrew Kluge, Amy Michael, Rob Kairis, Paul Moskun, Cheryl Wood, Tim Calfee, Christina West, and Matt Harper.

Also attending the meeting: Police Chief, Jeff Wallis; Finance Director, Brian Huff; City Engineer, Bob Finney; Council Clerk, Chelsea Gregor, Amy Young, Eric Courtney, Larry Silenius, Cliff Soudil, John McFarland

The Streets & Sidewalks Committee Meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by Chairperson, Matt Harper.

The first item was a presentation from Reed Memorial Library for landscape renovations.

Reed Memorial Library Executive Director, Amy Young and Board Member, Eric Courtney addressed Council to discuss and explained landscape renovation ideas the library has been working on. Ms. Young brought some design renderings and explained details of the proposed renovation. She stated that the library would like to remove the underutilized parking in front of the library and move the sidewalk out further to create more outdoor space with pavers, planters, new trees and benches for the community and library users to utilize. In addition, Ms. Young stated that they would like to do some repairs to the original section of the library and eventually renovate the back area of the library parking lot to make it more accessible and pedestrian friendly.

Mr. Kairis noted that the library is still currently under City ownership on paper.

Mr. Harper stated his concern for the cost that the City would incur to remove the front parking spots and widen the sidewalk, adding that he would like to see some parking spots remain towards the west.

Ms. Michael stated that it would need to be discussed with the Mayor and the Service Director.

Ms. Wood expressed concern for the City paying for the project but was okay if the library financed the project.

Mr. Courtney stated that the library cannot pay for work on the property that does not officially belong to the library and added that the library is currently just looking for permission to vacate the parking lot property.

Mr. Harper stated that the City will have to talk to the Law Director and said that if the parking spots are removed then the City may legally be responsible for putting in the new curbing. Mr. Soudil asked if there would be a public hearing regarding the removal of the front parking spots.

Mr. Harper stated that the renovation project is positive but there are legal questions to be answered before any decision can be made on approving the project.

• The item was discussion only

The second item was a Portage County Transportation Improvement District Grant.

Mr. Harper stated that the grant has been awarded for the Portage County Transportation Improvement District Grant. He explained that Mr. Finney reviewed the agreement, and that the agreement is with Portage County to have the City administer the grant.

• The item was moved forward

The third item was for 2022 annual pavement markings and striping.

Mr. Harper stated that the item is to allow the Mayor to advertise for bids for the annual paving project.

• The item was moved forward

Management Update

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 P.M.	
ATTEST:	
Clerk of Council	 Matt Harper, Chairperson
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